BERTIE KANGAROO

19¢
#25

A RAND McNALLY
TINY ELF

23 pages

BERTIE KANGAROO

By
SUTTON MURPHY

Pictures by
EVE ROCKWELL

RAND McNALLY & COMPANY • Chicago
Established 1856

Copyright © MCMLXVIII by Rand McNally & Company.
Copyright MCMLXVIII under International Copyright Union
by Rand McNally & Company. All rights reserved.
Printed in U.S.A.

MRS. KANGAROO and her little son Bertie lived in a zoo. There were lots of other animals there, too – giraffes and lions and tigers and monkeys – and people came to look at them every day.

Mrs. Kangaroo and Bertie looked at the people, too. They were curious about them.

"I don't see why we can't be out there with people, instead of in this cage," Bertie said.

"We walk on two legs, just as they do."

"Yes," said Mrs. Kangaroo, "and we carry our babies around with us. I'm sure it is much more sensible to keep them in a pocket than to push them in a carriage."

One day their keeper left the cage door open after he brought them their food.

"Now's our chance to learn about people, Mother," said Bertie. "Let's go!"

So Mrs. Kangaroo hopped off down the street, with Bertie leaning out of her pocket to see everything.

There were several people on the street. They looked startled to see two kangaroos, but Mrs. Kangaroo hopped by them quickly. "It isn't polite of them to stare at us," she said to Bertie.

Then they came to a big supermarket with glass windows across the front. There were lots of people inside, walking up and

down the aisles and pushing shopping carts.

"Oh, Mother," said Bertie, let's go in."

They went inside, and who should they meet but Mrs. Murphy! Mrs. Murphy often came to the zoo, and Mrs. Kangaroo recognized her at once.

"Good morning, Mrs. Murphy," she said. "I hope you are well?"

Mrs. Murphy looked a little puzzled. She didn't quite recognize Mrs. Kangaroo, but she was sure she had seen her before.

So she answered politely, "Thank you. It's a lovely day, isn't it?" and walked on.

"There," said Mrs. Kangaroo to Bertie, "I knew we could get along with people!"

They went up and down the aisles, looking at the things people were buying.

Then at one corner they came to a big stack of wastebaskets. As Mrs. Kangaroo hopped past, her tail hit the stack and knocked it over, and one of the baskets fell right on her head!

Mrs. Kangaroo couldn't see, and she began to jump wildly about. The manager and a police-

man came running to see what was the matter.

"Stop! Stop!" they cried.

"I can't!" said Mrs. Kangaroo.

Finally Mrs. Kangaroo gave a tremendous leap that took her right over a counter piled with boxes.

When she came down, she landed with a jolt in an empty shopping cart—*Ker-thump!*

The manager pulled the waste-basket off of Mrs. Kangaroo's head. "What do you mean by making such a commotion!" he said crossly. "You must leave my store at once."

Then the policeman put Mrs. Kangaroo and Bertie in the side car of his motorcycle. *Zoom!* Away they went, back to the zoo.

Mrs. Kangaroo and Bertie were so tired out from their adventure they were glad to get back in their cage and take a nap.

The next day their keeper told them, "You are going away to a new kind of zoo where you will be outdoors more. Kangaroos need room to jump around." And he kissed them good-bye.

"How nice!" thought Mrs. Kangaroo. "We will see cows and sheep and puppies and cats, and people, too. I know I am going to be happy in our new home."

And that is where Mrs. Kangaroo and Bertie are today.

AUG 2 9 1978

AUG 2 9 1978

AUG 29 1978

P9-DZV-190